THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A scheme has accordingly been finalized by the Government.

Expenditure on Health Services

†*218. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have, so far, been spending just one per cent on health services;

(b) if so, whether Government are contemplating to spend ten per cent of the budget on health services;

(c) whether various organisations of doctors have emphasised the need for formulation of a far-reaching and all-round National Drug Policy to provide safe and cheaper medicines to patients; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Central Government has been spending about 1.3% of the total budget on health care services. The Central Government has been making every effort to increase its contribution to the public health expenditure. The resources for public investment in health sector are also being augmented by securing assistance from various bi-lateral and multi-lateral agencies for implementation of various disease control programmes. Health infrastructure in certain States has also been upgraded with World Bank assistance.

The draft National Health Policy, 2002 envisages increasing the Central and State Government's contribution from the existing 15 percent and 5.5 percent to 25 percent and 8% respectively of the total public spending in the health sector by 2010.

(c) and (d) In March, 1999, Government constituted two committees *viz.*, the Drug Price Control Review Committee to review the drug price control mechanism and to suggest alternative models;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and the Pharmaceutical Research and Development Committee to strengthen the research and development capability of the pharmaceutical industry in the country. These Committees considered suggestions received from Industry Associations, consumer interest groups, voluntary health organisations, Trade, State Governments experts, stake holders, etc. Based on the recommendations of both these Committees, Government has formulated the Pharmaceutical Policy, 2002. One of the main objectives of this policy is ensuring abundant availability within the country of good quality essential pharmaceuticals of mass consumption at reasonable prices.

Advertisements relating to liquor

*219. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that advertisements on consumption of liquor are banned in newspapers, other media and TV programmes;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to advertisements of liquor appearing in the garb of soda water, fruit juice etc.; and

(c) if so, the action Government propose to take to stop such TV advertisements and under which provision of law?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) All India Radio and Doordarshan follow the Code for Commercial Advertising while broadcasting/telecasting the advertisements. In accordance with the Code no. advertisement, which relates to or promotes liquor, wines and other intoxicants, is permitted.

The programmes of private channels and foreign satellite channels, when transmitted through cable television networks in the country, are required to adhere to the programmes and advertisement codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. Rule 7(2)(viii)(A) does not permit any advertisement which promotes